

16. The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the input device is a pointing device.

17. The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the pointing device is a mouse having at least a right-click key and a left-click key.

REMARKS

The 2 January 2003 official action addressed claims 1-17. Claims 1-3, 6-7 and 9-15 are amended. Claims 1-17 are pending for reconsideration.

Claim amendments

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the features of claim 2 which was previously indicated to be allowable.

The original features recited in claim 2 have been deleted and are replaced with the feature that the information processing apparatus recited in claim 1 is a portable telephone.

Claim 9 and its dependent claims have been amended to remove references to an information processing apparatus and now recite features of a portable telephone device and an associated coordinate input device.

Claim 9 and its dependent claims are also amended to specify that a detachable coordinate input device is attachable the handset of a portable phone, as shown for example in Figures 1-5 of the application.

Further amendments are made to clarify the language of the claims. These amendments are not intended to change the scope of the amended features.

No new matter is added.

Prior art rejections

Claims 2-4 and 10-12 were indicated to be allowable. Claims 1, 5 and 7 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Bowers (U.S.

6,392,634). Claims 9 and 13-17 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Bowers in view of Henderson (U.S. 6,035,214). Claim 6 was rejected as being obvious over Bowers in view of Ikehara (U.S. 6,400,353). Claim 8 was rejected as being obvious over Bowers in view of Yeom (U.S. 5,943,625).

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowability provided for claim 2, and independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claim 2. Accordingly claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-8 are now believed to be allowable.

With regard to independent claim 9 and its dependent claims 10-17, applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be reconsidered in view of the following remarks.


Claim 9 now recites a portable telephone apparatus that incorporates a coordinate entry device (e.g. a mouse) that is coupled to the *handset* of the portable telephone and detachable from the handset of the portable telephone, and that controls a cursor on the portable telephone display. The rejection of claim 9 cites Bowers, which shows a laptop PC having a detachable mouse, and Henderson, which shows a laptop PC having a mouse and a phone that fit in a cavity in the PC. The official action takes the position that it would be obvious in view of these devices to provide a portable phone apparatus having a detachable mouse. However, applicants understanding of these references is that neither one shows a portable phone having any type of device that is detachable from the *handset*. Bowers clearly shows a mouse that is detachable from a PC. Henderson clearly shows a phone that is built into a PC. Neither, however, shows a phone handset having any type of detachable component. Looking at Figure 1 of Bowers and Figure 1 of Henderson, one might be motivated to integrate the detachable mouse of Bowers into the body of Henderson's PC, since that type of integration is what is taught by Bowers. But it is submitted that one would not be motivated to put a detachable mouse in the phone handset itself, since that is different than what Bowers does, and in general one associates a mouse with computers and not phones. So while one might combine the Bowers and Henderson devices, it is submitted that one

would do so by integrating a detachable mouse into the body of the Henderson PC, rather than into the phone handset that is tethered to the Henderson PC. In contrast, the present claims recite a device in which a detachable coordinate input device such as a mouse is incorporated directly into a portable phone handset itself, and as such it is believed that claim 9 is distinguished from the combined teachings of Bowers and Henderson. The claims dependent from claim 9 are also distinguished for these reasons as well as for the additional novel features recited therein.

The foregoing amendments and remarks address all bases for objection and rejection and are believed to place the case in condition for allowance. The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Title: PORTABLE INFORMATION INPUT APPARATUS
Application No.: 09/625,052
Filing Date: 24 July 2000
Examiner: E. YUN
Art Unit: 2683

VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE IN
REPLY TO OFFICIAL ACTION OF 2 JANUARY 2003
UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Box Non-Fee Amendment
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the official action mailed 2 January 2003, the application is amended as follows:

In the claims:

1. (Amended) An input apparatus for inputting information to an information processing device provided with a display, the input apparatus comprising:

a coupling mechanism for detachably coupling the input apparatus to a predetermined portion formed in the information processing device;

a coordinate information generator for generating coordinate information ~~depending on~~ in accordance with a movement of the input apparatus on a flat

surface to control a position of a cursor on the display of the information processing device; and

a cable for electrically connecting the input apparatus to the information processing device; and

a battery accommodating portion for accommodating a battery that supplies power to the information processing device when the input apparatus is coupled to the predetermined portion of the information processing device by the coupling mechanism.

2. (Amended) The input apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information processing apparatus is a portable telephone further comprising:

~~a battery accommodating portion for accommodating a battery which is used to supply power to the information processing device when the input apparatus is coupled to the predetermined portion of the information processing device by the coupling mechanism.~~

3. (Amended) The input apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

an electric contact portion for electrically connecting the battery to the information processing device when the input apparatus is coupled to the predetermined portion of the information processing device by the coupling mechanism.

4. The input apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the information processing device includes a secondary battery, which is charged by the battery of the input apparatus when the input apparatus is coupled to the predetermined portion of the information processing device by the coupling mechanism.

5. The input apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the cable is allowed to be pulled out from a rewinding mechanism provided in the information processing device when the input apparatus is removed from the predetermined portion of the information processing device.

6. (Amended) The input apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a connector connected to one end of the cable, for detachably connecting the input apparatus to the information processing device through the cable; and

a cable accommodating space formed in the input apparatus, for accommodating the cable with the connector therein.

7. (Amended) The input apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

at least two buttons ~~which each functions~~ functioning as right-click and left-click buttons of a mouse when the input apparatus is separated from the predetermined portion of the information processing device and ~~functions~~ functioning as right cursor key and left cursor keys when the input apparatus is coupled to the predetermined portion of the information processing device by the coupling mechanism.

8. The input apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:
a keypad including a ten-key pad.

9. (Amended) A portable telephone apparatus comprising:

a display;

~~an information processing device;~~

an input device for inputting coordinate information to the ~~information processing device~~ portable telephone apparatus to control a position of a cursor on the display, the coordinate information varying depending on a movement of the input device on a flat surface; and

a coupling mechanism for detachably coupling the input device to a ~~predetermined portion~~ handset of the portable telephone apparatus.

10. (Amended) The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the input device comprises:

a battery accommodating portion for accommodating a battery ~~which is used to supply that supplies~~ power to the ~~information processing device~~portable telephone apparatus when the input device is coupled to the ~~predetermined portion-handset~~ of the portable telephone apparatus by the coupling mechanism.

11. (Amended) The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the input device has a first electric contact portion and the ~~predetermined portion-handset~~ of the portable telephone apparatus has a second electric contact portion, wherein the first and second electric contact portions are electrically connected to each other when the input device is coupled to the ~~predetermined portion-handset~~ by the coupling mechanism.

12. (Amended) The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising:

a secondary battery, which is charged by the battery of the input device when the input device is coupled to the ~~predetermined portion-handset~~ of the portable telephone apparatus by the coupling mechanism.

13. (Amended) The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the coordinate information is transferred from the input device to the ~~information processing device~~portable telephone apparatus through a cable.

14. (Amended) The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the coordinate information is transferred wirelessly from the input device to the ~~information processing device by wireless~~portable telephone apparatus.

15. (Amended) The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the ~~information processing device~~portable telephone apparatus controls the input device so that ~~it~~the input device functions as a keypad of the portable telephone apparatus when the input device is coupled to the ~~predetermined portion-handset~~ of the portable telephone apparatus by the coupling mechanism

and functions as a pointing device when the input device is not coupled to the ~~predetermined portion~~ handset of the portable telephone apparatus.

16. The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the input device is a pointing device.

17. The portable telephone apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the pointing device is a mouse having at least a right-click key and a left-click key.